

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: April 14, 2003  
For Week Ending: April 13, 2003  
ND-CW1503

Cooperating With:  
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,  
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)  
and  
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER  
INFORMATION CENTER

**General:** Above average temperatures coupled with strong winds at the end of last week dried fields and increased soil temperatures, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. These conditions enabled producers to make good progress in fieldwork and small grain and sugarbeet planting. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 14 percent very short, 26 short, 55 adequate, and 5 surplus compared to the five-year (1998-2002) average of 3 percent very short, 12 short, 69 adequate, and 16 surplus.

The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 16. This compares to last year's actual starting date of April 25 and the five-year average of April 22. The record late starting date for fieldwork is May 13 set in 1979. The expected starting dates range from April 10 in the southeast district to April 26 in the north central district.

**Crops:** Dry soil conditions in the southeast district allowed producers to continue planting other spring wheat. Producers in the north central and northeast districts were waiting for soils to dry out from last week's snowfall before starting fieldwork. Statewide, 9 percent of the other spring wheat, 2 percent of the durum and barley, 1 percent of the oats and 5 percent of the sugarbeets were planted. Last year at this time, only 1 percent of the other spring wheat, oats and sugarbeets were planted.

**Livestock:** Calving and lambing made good progress last week. Calving was 68 percent complete compared to 69 percent complete on April 14 last year. Lambing was 81 percent complete compared to 79 percent complete last year. Sheep shearing was 88 percent complete.

Cow conditions were rated 68 percent good to excellent compared to 67 last week and 86 last year. Calf conditions were 77 percent good to excellent compared to 88 percent last year. Sheep and lamb conditions were rated 69 and 75 percent good to excellent, respectively. Last year sheep and lamb conditions were rated 88 percent good to excellent. Livestock feed and hay supplies remain mostly adequate at this time. Current supplies of hay and forage were rated 7 percent very short, 22 short, 69 adequate, and 2 surplus. This compares to a rating last year of 3 percent short, 88 adequate, and 9 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 2 percent very short, 7 short, 86 adequate, and 5 surplus. Pasture conditions were 72 percent still dormant and 28 growing compared to 88 percent still dormant a year ago.

### Planting Completed April 13, 2003 with Comparisons

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	1998-02 Avg.
(Percent)				
SMALL GRAINS				
Barley	2	0	0	0
Durum Wheat	2	0	0	0
HRS Wheat	9	1	1	1
Oats	1	0	1	1
LATE SEASON CROPS				
Sugarbeets	5	0	1	0

### Livestock Condition Week Ending April 13, 2003

Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
(Percent)					
Cows	1	4	27	61	7
Calves	0	2	21	66	11
Sheep	1	3	27	59	10
Lambs	1	3	21	65	10

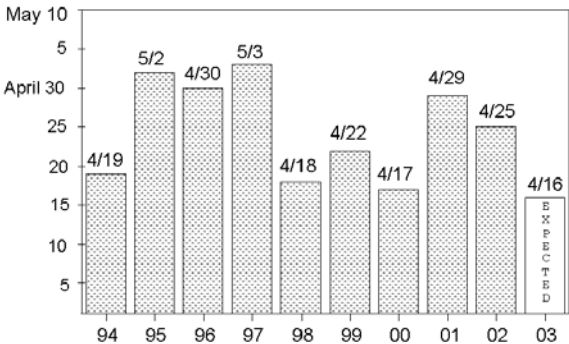
**Soil Temperatures:** Average soil temperatures on April 13 ranged from a low of 43 degrees F in Bowbells to a high of 55 degrees F in Carrington and Dickinson. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil and recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

### AVERAGE SOIL TEMPERATURES\*, April 13, 2003

Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
Degrees F		Degrees F	
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	43	Carrington	55
Minot	52	Robinson	45
Williston	52	Streeter	48
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	46	Dazey	51
Bottineau	46	Fargo	50
Rolla	46	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	54
Cavalier	52	Dickinson	55
Grand Forks	48	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	45	Linton	54
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	54	Oakes	53
Watford City	54	Wyndmere	49

\* Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.  
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

### Average Starting Date For Fieldwork North Dakota, 1994-2003



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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 13, 2003

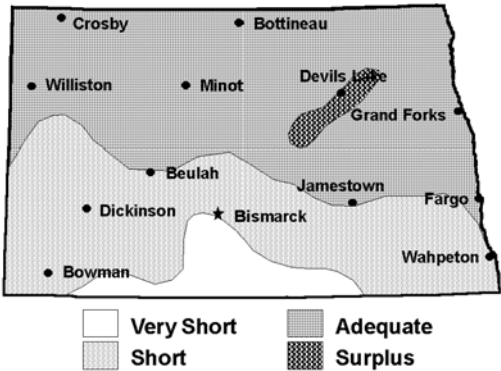
Soil Moisture: North Dakota, April 13, 2003

Date	V. Short	Short	Adq.	Surplus
(Percent)				
TOPSOIL				
This Week	14	26	55	5
Last Week	10	29	52	9
Last Year	7	27	63	3
98-02 Avg	3	12	69	16
SUBSOIL				
This Week	17	28	54	1
Last Week	15	26	56	3
Last Year	6	31	61	2
98-02 Avg	2	15	70	13

**Weather:** Temperatures were well above average last week. Most of the state experienced temperatures 13 to 16 degrees above average. Although the average temperatures ranged from 42 to 56 for the week, many areas saw temperatures reach well into the 80s and some cities even saw 90s over the weekend. Record temperatures were set around the state on Sunday. No precipitation was reported except for the cities of Williston, which received 0.07 of an inch, and Forest River, which received 0.02 of an inch. The entire state is below normal in terms of precipitation. Precipitation deficits range from 0.32 of an inch below normal in the southwest to 0.70 of an inch below normal in the southeast. West central, north central, and northeast North Dakota range from 0.40 to 0.48 of an inch below normal.

**Outlook, April 7-13:** For the coming week, expect to see temperatures above average then falling throughout the week to near average. The southern part of the state can expect to see temperatures in the upper 70s Monday then falling as the week progresses to the mid-40s and rebounding into the 50s by the weekend. Lows will drop below freezing midweek and continue to be below freezing through the weekend. Expect lows Wednesday night to be in the mid-20s with the low on Saturday reaching the freezing mark. The northwest, north central and west central portions of the state will experience high temperatures in the mid to upper 50s early in the week then falling into the low to mid-40s midweek and rebounding back into the 50s by the weekend. Low temperatures will drop below freezing much of the week with some temps as low as 20 degrees in northern areas. Expect to see lows return to above freezing by the weekend. East central, central and northeast North Dakota will start the week out in the 60s then drop to the mid-40s by midweek and rebound into the 50s by the weekend. Lows will range from upper 30s early in the week to mid-20s midweek and back above freezing by the end of the week. The western two-thirds of the state has a chance for precipitation all week starting with a chance of thunderstorms Monday and Monday night, rain showers on Tuesday, then seeing the possibility for rain/snow Tuesday night through Thursday. The weekend looks to be dry. The rest of the state will remain dry except for a chance of rain/snow showers Tuesday night. Southeast North Dakota has a chance for rain/snow showers Tuesday into Tuesday night, and again on Wednesday. Friday through Sunday appear to be non-precipitation days for the entire state.

Topsoil Moisture Supplies  
April 13, 2003



Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 13, 2003

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	Past Week	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
Northwest (1)	53	14	0.02	0.19	-0.33
N. Central (2)	55	15	0.00	0.14	-0.40
Northeast (3)	55	15	0.00	0.09	-0.41
W. Central (4)	56	14	0.00	0.13	-0.48
Central (5)	56	16	0.00	0.07	-0.53
E. Central (6)	55	14	0.00	0.09	-0.65
Southwest (7)	54	13	0.00	0.21	-0.32
S. Central (8)	57	15	0.00	0.00	-0.59
Southeast (9)	56	15	0.00	0.02	-0.70

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA = Not Available.  
Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 13, 2003

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
(1) Bowbells	76	23	0.00	0.17	-0.31
Williston	82	32	0.07	0.30	-0.21
Mohall	77	23	0.00	0.19	-0.34
Minot	82	27	0.00	0.08	-0.47
(2) Baker	86	26	0.00	0.12	-0.53
Bottineau	78	25	0.00	0.12	-0.33
Towner	88	26	0.00	0.18	-0.34
(3) Cando	82	27	0.00	0.02	-0.39
Cavalier	83	28	0.00	0.09	-0.35
Forest River	84	28	0.02	0.11	-0.50
Grand Forks	82	28	0.00	0.07	-0.46
Langdon	79	28	0.00	0.11	-0.25
St. Thomas	83	28	0.00	0.11	-0.50
(4) Hazen	88	24	0.00	0.08	-0.61
Turtle Lake	86	24	0.00	0.18	-0.44
Watford City	82	32	0.00	0.14	-0.38
(5) Carrington	89	28	0.00	0.10	-0.51
Harvey	89	25	0.00	0.20	-0.31
Jamestown	91	23	0.00	0.02	-0.56
Robinson	89	20	0.00	0.03	-0.53
Streeter	88	22	0.00	0.00	-0.74
(6) Dazey	90	20	0.00	0.11	-0.54
Fargo	89	25	0.00	0.09	-0.75
Hillsboro	88	19	0.00	0.07	-0.65
(7) Beach	83	27	0.00	0.15	-0.32
Bowman	83	22	0.00	0.10	-0.38
Dickinson	85	28	0.00	0.41	-0.20
Hettinger	84	22	0.00	0.17	-0.37
(8) Mandan	91	23	0.00	0.00	-0.59
Linton	90	24	0.00	0.00	-0.60
(9) Edgeley	90	21	0.00	0.04	-0.70
McLeod	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oakes	94	20	0.00	0.01	-0.80
Wyndmere	91	21	0.00	0.01	-0.61

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA=Not Available.  
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